

**PROPOSED  
AMENDMENTS TO THE AREA DESIGNATIONS  
FOR STATE AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS,**

**AND**

**PROPOSED  
MAPS OF THE AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR THE  
STATE AND NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS**

**STAFF REPORT**

**November 13, 1997  
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This document has been reviewed and approved by the staff of the California Environmental Protection Agency, Air Resources Board.  
Approval does not signify that the contents necessarily reflect

the views and policies of the California Air Resources Board.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### OVERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

A.	Overview .....	1
1.	Introduction .....	1
2.	Proposed Amendments to the Area Designations .....	1
B.	Recommendation .....	2

### CHAPTER I

#### BACKGROUND

A.	Introduction .....	3
B.	Legal Requirements .....	3
C.	Summary of the Designation Criteria .....	4
1.	General Provisions .....	4
2.	Data to Use .....	4
3.	Highly Irregular or Infrequent Events .....	4
4.	Size of Designated Areas .....	5
5.	Designation Categories .....	6
D.	Implications of the Area Designations .....	7
1.	Areas Redesignated as Nonattainment .....	7
2.	Areas Redesignated as Nonattainment-Transitional .....	8
3.	Areas Redesignated as Attainment or Unclassified .....	8
E.	Area Designation Review Process .....	9

### CHAPTER II

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AREA DESIGNATIONS

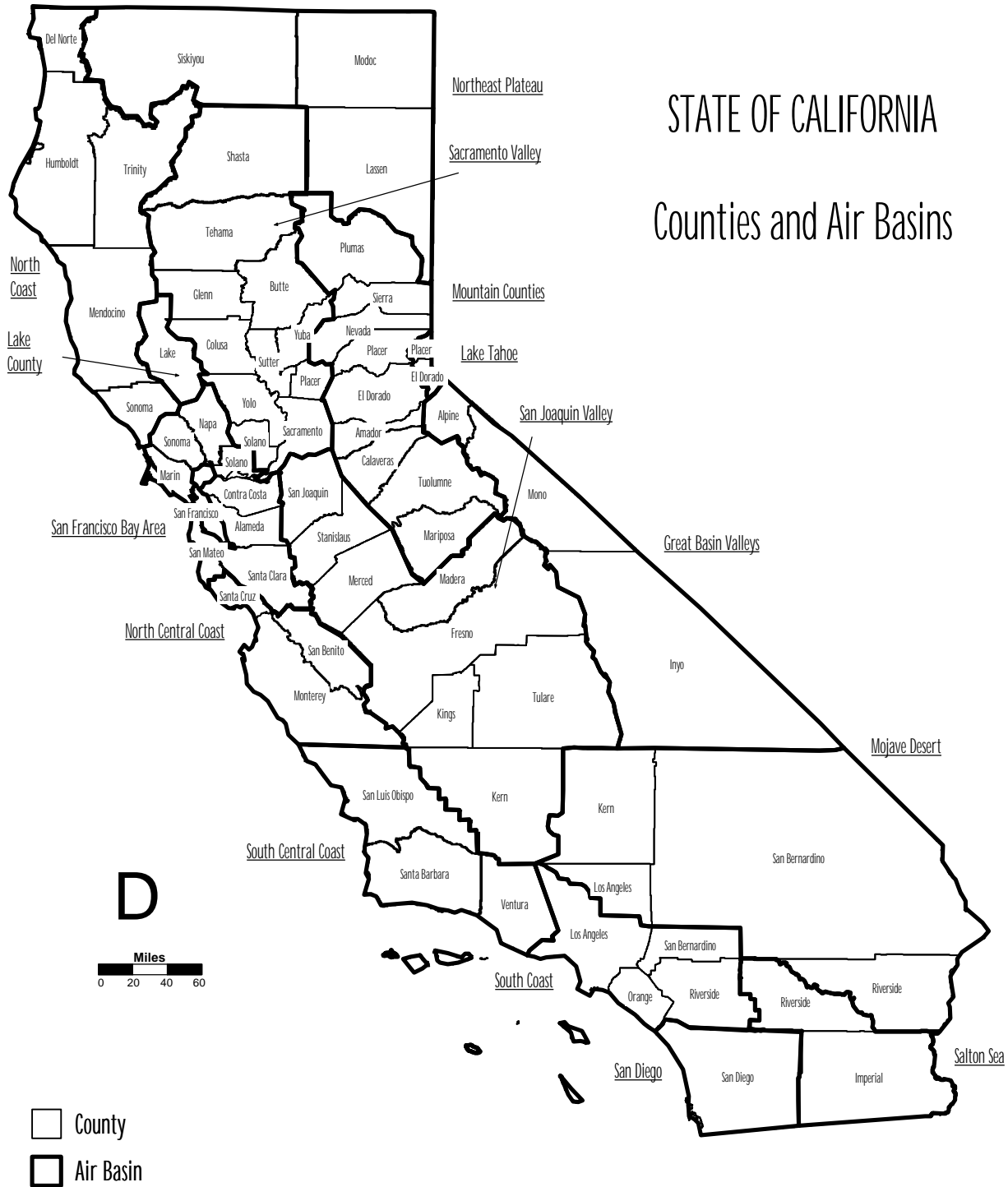
A.	Introduction .....	11
B.	Proposed Area Redesignation for Ozone .....	12
1.	Butte County (Sacramento Valley Air Basin) (Nonattainment to Nonattainment-Transitional) .....	12
2.	Glenn County (Sacramento Valley Air Basin) (Nonattainment to Nonattainment-Transitional) .....	13
C.	Areas Not Recommended for Redesignation .....	13
1.	Areas Not Recommend for Ozone Redesignation .....	14
a.	Inyo County .....	14
b.	Plumas County .....	14
c.	Sonoma County (North Coast Air Basin).....	15

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# STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## Counties and Air Basins





## **OVERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **A. OVERVIEW**

#### **1. Introduction**

The Health and Safety Code (H&SC) section 39607(e) requires the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) to establish area designation criteria for state ambient air quality standards. These designation criteria provide the basis for the Board to designate areas as nonattainment, attainment, or unclassified for the State standards for specified pollutants (ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, PM10, sulfates, lead, hydrogen sulfide, and visibility reducing particles) set forth in section 70200 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The H&SC section 39607(e) also requires the Board to periodically review the designation criteria. The staff believes the criteria are still appropriate and does not propose any revisions this year.

Additionally, H&SC section 39608 requires the Board to establish and annually review the area designations. Based on the most recently available three years of air quality data (data collected during 1994 through 1996), the staff recommends several amendments to the area designations. These proposed amendments are summarized in subsection 2, below.

Finally, this Staff Report includes maps and tables showing the area designations for both the State and national ambient air quality standards (refer to Attachment A). ARB is required by section 40718 of the H&SC to publish and annually update this information. The maps and tables provided in Attachment A reflect the area designations for State standards as proposed in Chapter II of this Staff Report.

#### **2. Proposed Amendments to the Area Designations**

The proposed amendments to the area designations would make the following changes to the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17, sections 60201 and 60205:

- Redesignate Butte County in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin as nonattainment-transitional for ozone. This change is by operation of law. Currently, Butte County is designated as nonattainment for ozone.



- Redesignate Glenn County in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin as nonattainment-transitional for ozone. This change is by operation of law. Currently, Glenn County is designated as nonattainment for ozone.
- Nonsubstantive changes for consistency with criteria designating contiguous areas and to clarify designations made by operation of law under H&SC, section 40925.5.

## **B. RECOMMENDATION**

The ARB staff recommends the Board adopt the proposed amendments to the area designations. The full text of the designation criteria and the proposed amendments are given in Attachments B and C, respectively, of this Staff Report.

## **CHAPTER I**

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **A. INTRODUCTION**

This chapter provides background information on the criteria used in making the area designations and on the area designations themselves. The following sections describe the legal requirements, the criteria used to make the area designations, the implications of the designations, and the area designation review process.

#### **B. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

H&SC section 39607(e) requires the Board to establish and periodically review the criteria for designating areas as nonattainment or attainment for the State ambient air quality standards. The Board originally adopted the required designation criteria in June 1989. The Board subsequently amended the designation criteria in June 1990, May 1992, December 1992, November 1993, and November 1995.

H&SC section 39608 requires the Board to use the designation criteria to designate areas of California as nonattainment or attainment with respect to the State standards. Areas that cannot be designated as nonattainment or attainment because of lack of data are designated as unclassified. The area designations are made on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis for all pollutants listed in the CCR, Title 17, section 70200. The nine affected pollutants are ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, suspended particulate matter (PM10), sulfates, lead, hydrogen sulfide, and visibility reducing particles. H&SC section 39608 requires the Board to review the area designations each year and to update them as new information becomes available.

H&SC section 40718 requires the Board to publish maps showing the areas with one or more measured violations of any State or national ambient air quality standard. The maps and summary tables provided in Attachment A to this Staff Report fulfill this requirement. The maps and tables for the State standards reflect the proposed amendments to the area designations as described in Chapter II of this Staff Report. The maps and summary tables for the national ambient air quality standards reflect the current federal area designations, as promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

## C. SUMMARY OF THE DESIGNATION CRITERIA

### 1. General Provisions

The designation criteria which describe the procedures the Board must use in determining an area's designation status with respect to the State standards are contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17, sections 70300 through 70306, and Appendices 1 through 4 (refer to Attachment B). In summary, the designation criteria specify:

- The data the Board will use for making the area designations;
- How the Board will determine whether an area qualifies for designation as nonattainment, attainment, or unclassified;
- How the Board will determine the size of designated areas; and
- The requirement for an annual review of the area designations by the Board's Executive Officer.

### 2. Data to Use

To the extent possible, the Board makes area designations for each pollutant based on recent ambient air quality data. The air quality data must be **data for record**, which are those air quality data that satisfy specific siting and quality assurance procedures established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Generally, data for record are those data collected by or under the direction of the Board and the air pollution control and air quality management districts. When adequate recent air quality data are not available, the Board may use other types of information to determine an appropriate area designation. These other types of information may include historical air quality data, emission data, meteorological or topographical data, and data relating to the characteristics of population or emissions.

### 3. Highly Irregular or Infrequent Events

When area designations for State standards are based on ambient air quality data, the designation criteria allow for the exclusion of unrepresentative values. In particular, the designation criteria provide for excluding exceedances affected by highly irregular or infrequent events because it is not reasonable to mitigate these exceedances through the regulatory process. Appendix 2 to the designation criteria (Attachment B) defines three types of highly irregular or infrequent events:

- Exceptional events,
- Extreme concentration events, and

- Unusual concentration events.

An **exceptional event** is a specific, identifiable event that is beyond reasonable regulatory control and causes an exceedance of a State standard. An exceptional event may be caused by an act of nature (for example, a severe wind storm or forest fire) or it may be of human origin (for example, a chemical spill or industrial accident).

An **extreme concentration event** may not have a specific, identifiable cause, but is identified by a statistical procedure which calculates the concentration that is not expected to recur more frequently than once per year. This value commonly is referred to as the Expected Peak Day Concentration (EPDC). Adverse meteorology is one potential cause of an extreme concentration event. Measured concentrations that are higher than the EPDC are identified as extreme concentrations and are excluded from the area designation process. The highest concentration remaining after excluding extreme concentrations is referred to as the designation value.

A pollutant-specific, EPDC is calculated for each monitoring site using air quality data measured at the site during a three-year period. The site-specific EPDCs for ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, PM<sub>10</sub>, sulfates, lead, and hydrogen sulfide are listed in Attachment D. These EPDCs are based on air quality data for 1994 through 1996. This is the most recent three-year period for which data are available and is the same three-year period used in reviewing the area designations described in this Staff Report. Note that the EPDCs are not given for visibility reducing particles because data are not available for calculating the EPDCs for this pollutant.

An **unusual concentration event** is an event that causes an anomalous exceedance of a State standard. To identify an exceedance as affected by an unusual concentration event, the Executive Officer must find (based on relevant information) that the impact of the affected exceedance is limited to the local area, the exceedance is not expected to recur, and the data do not support a nonattainment designation. Unusual concentration events may be identified only for areas already designated as attainment or unclassified, and exceedances so identified are excluded from consideration in the area designation process. Furthermore, an area may retain its attainment or unclassified designation by virtue of exclusions of exceedances as affected by unusual concentration events for up to three consecutive years only.

#### 4. Size of Designated Areas

The size of the area designated may vary depending on the pollutant, the location of contributing emission sources, the meteorology, and the topographic features. Normally, an air basin is the area designated for ozone, nitrogen dioxide, PM10, sulfates, and visibility reducing particles. A county (or the portion of a county located within an air basin) normally is the area designated for carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, lead, and hydrogen sulfide. The Board may designate smaller areas, if the Board finds that a smaller area has distinctly different air quality. This finding is to be based on a review of the air quality data, meteorology, topography, and the distribution of population and emissions. Sources with emissions that contribute to a violation must be included within a nonattainment area. To the extent possible, the Board uses political boundary lines to define designated areas smaller than air basins.

## 5. Designation Categories

The designation criteria specify three major designation categories: nonattainment, attainment, and unclassified. The Board will designate an area as **nonattainment** for a pollutant if air quality data show that a State standard for the pollutant was violated at least once during the previous three calendar years. Exceedances that are affected by highly irregular or infrequent events are not considered violations of a State standard and are not used as a basis for designating areas as nonattainment.

The designation criteria specify a subcategory of nonattainment which is called **nonattainment-transitional**. The Board will designate, at the request of the district, an area as nonattainment-transitional for a pollutant other than ozone if air quality data show that a State standard for that pollutant was violated two or fewer times at each of the sites in the area during the previous calendar year. In addition, an evaluation of recent air quality data trends and meteorological and emission data must show that air quality either has stabilized or has improved. Finally, each site in the area must be expected to reach attainment for the pollutant within three years.

The nonattainment-transitional designation also can apply to ozone. Under H&SC section 40925.5(a), the nonattainment-transitional designations for ozone are made **by operation of law**. Specifically, a district is designated as nonattainment-transitional for ozone by operation of law if air quality data for record show that the State ozone standard was exceeded three or fewer times at each of the sites in the district during the most recent year for which air quality data are available. Note that before January 1, 1997 the size of an area evaluated for a nonattainment-transitional designation of the State ozone standard was an air basin. Assembly Bill 3048 changed this by requiring the size of an evaluated area

to be a district (H&SC section 40925.5(a)). The Board has adopted guidelines to use in evaluating whether a district meets the requirements of H&SC section 40925.5(a). These guidelines are specified in the designation criteria: CCR, Title 17, section 70303.5 (refer to Attachment B).

The Board will designate an area as **attainment** for a pollutant if the data show that the State standard for that pollutant was not violated during the previous three calendar years. Again, exceedances affected by highly irregular or infrequent events are not considered violations and, therefore, are not considered in the area designation process. As a result, an area may have measured concentrations that exceed a State standard and still be designated as attainment. If an area has little or no air quality data available to determine its designation for nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, sulfates, and lead, the designation criteria regulations (CCR, Title 17, section 70304 (c)) allow such an area to be designated as attainment if air quality, emissions, and population data are below specified levels and the area meets certain conditions (refer to Attachment B).

Finally, the Board will designate an area as **unclassified** for a pollutant if the available data do not support a designation of nonattainment or attainment.

## **D. IMPLICATIONS OF THE AREA DESIGNATIONS**

### **1. Areas Redesignated as Nonattainment**

A district that includes an attainment or unclassified area that is redesignated as nonattainment (a nonattainment district) experiences two principal consequences under the law. First, State law requires districts that are nonattainment to develop plans for attaining the State standards for any of four pollutants (ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur dioxide). The nonattainment districts must submit these attainment plans to the Board for approval (H&SC section 40911). Ozone nonattainment districts that are impacted by transport from upwind areas (in other words, ozone violations are caused by emissions transported from upwind areas located outside the district) are required to develop ozone attainment plans for mitigation of only violations that would occur in the absence of the transport contribution (H&SC sections 39610(b) and 40912). In this case, the upwind district(s) would be responsible for mitigating the ozone violations in the downwind nonattainment area that are caused by overwhelming transport (see CCR, Title 17, section 70600).

A district is not subject to any specific statutory planning requirements if it is redesignated as nonattainment for any of the remaining five pollutants--PM10,

sulfates, lead, hydrogen sulfide, or visibility reducing particles. However, such districts must adopt and enforce rules and regulations to expeditiously attain the State standards for these five pollutants (H&SC section 40001). Furthermore, a nonattainment district may develop and implement an attainment plan or adopt regulations to control the emissions that contribute to these pollutants (H&SC section 40926).

The second possible consequence of a nonattainment designation is the ability to levy fees under certain conditions. Nonattainment districts are authorized to levy a fee of up to \$4.00 on motor vehicles registered in the district for the purposes of California Clean Air Act implementation (H&SC sections 44223 and 44225).

## **2. Areas Redesignated as Nonattainment-Transitional**

Nonattainment-transitional is a subcategory of the nonattainment designation. Therefore, with certain exceptions, a district with an area that is redesignated as nonattainment-transitional is subject to the same legal requirements as a nonattainment district (refer to discussion in subsection 1, above).

However, nonattainment-transitional status may signal a change in how some requirements may be implemented. For example, a district that currently is implementing an approved attainment plan may determine that some of the additional control measures contained in the attainment plan are not needed to reach attainment by the earliest practicable date. As a result, nonattainment-transitional status provides the district with a signal that it may be appropriate to review and perhaps modify its approved attainment plan. District actions in response to a nonattainment-transitional designation must be consistent with State and federal regulations and statutes.

As to districts designated as nonattainment-transitional for ozone, H&SC section 40925.5 specifically allows such districts to shift some stationary source control measures to the contingency category if the district finds these control measures no longer are necessary to accomplish expeditious attainment of the State ozone standard. These actions are effective immediately once designation occurs. However these actions may not apply to control measures required to mitigate the effects of pollutant transport. The Board may disapprove any action of the district within 90 days if the Board finds that the actions will delay expeditious attainment of the state ozone standard.

## **3. Areas Redesignated as Attainment or Unclassified**

State law does not impose any specific planning requirements upon districts because they include areas redesignated as attainment or unclassified. However, State law does require that the State standards not only be attained but also, maintained. State law requires the districts and the Board to make a coordinated effort to protect and enhance the ambient air quality. As part of this effort, the districts must adopt rules and regulations sufficiently effective to attain and maintain the State standards (H&SC sections 39001, 40001, and 41500).

#### **E. AREA DESIGNATION REVIEW PROCESS**

Both the H&SC (section 39608(c)) and the designation criteria (CCR, Title 17, section 70306) require the Board to review the area designations annually and to redesignate areas as new information becomes available. As part of this review process, the staff distributed two notices.

On April 1, 1997, the staff sent a letter to all districts notifying them of the May 1, 1997, deadline for requesting a change in an area's designation, submitting information for consideration in the annual review process, or requesting a nonattainment-transitional designation for pollutants other than ozone. Note that the nonattainment-transitional designations for ozone are made by operation of law, rather than through redesignations adopted by the Board, so a district request for nonattainment-transitional designation for ozone is not needed.

On July 3, 1997, the staff distributed a general announcement for a public consultation meeting held July 31, 1997. This announcement included a table summarizing the staff's proposed redesignations. As required by the designation criteria, the proposed area redesignations are based on the staff's review of the air quality data collected during the most recent three calendar years--1994 through 1996.





## **CHAPTER II**

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AREA DESIGNATIONS**

#### **A. INTRODUCTION**

This chapter describes and explains the proposed amendments to the area designations due to air quality changes. The proposed area redesignations are consistent with the designation criteria established in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17, sections 70300 through 70306.

The proposed redesignations are based on air quality data for record as defined in section 70301 of the designation criteria. The air quality data used for redesignating an area as nonattainment must be representative of the averaging time specified in the State standard. The air quality data used for redesignating an area as attainment or nonattainment-transitional must meet representativeness and completeness criteria. The specific requirements for evaluating data representativeness and data completeness are given in Appendices 1 and 3 of the CCR, Title 17, sections 70300 through 70306 (refer to Attachment B).

As required by the designation criteria, the staff reviewed the air quality data collected during the three-year period of 1994 through 1996. Based on these data, redesignations are appropriate for only one of the nine pollutants for which the Board makes area designations. The affected pollutant is: ozone. Based on the 1994 through 1996 data, no action is proposed for the remaining eight pollutants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, lead, PM10, sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, and visibility reducing particles. Therefore, the current area designations for these eight pollutants would remain unchanged.

Section B of this chapter describes the areas and circumstances for which the staff is proposing area redesignations. Note that before January 1, 1997 the size of the area evaluated for a nonattainment-transitional designation of the State ozone standard was an air basin. Assembly Bill 3048 changed this by requiring the size of the evaluated area to be a district (H&SC section 40925.5(a)). The two redesignations proposed in this Staff Report are the result of this change. Attachment E of this Staff Report includes supporting documents for the proposed changes.

Section C describes the areas where air quality data would appear to signal a change in the area designation, but, which for various reasons, the staff does not recommend redesignations. Attachment E of this Staff Report includes

supporting documents for this section.

Section D describes the proposed nonsubstantive changes for consistency with criteria designating contiguous areas and to clarify designations made by operation of law.

## **B. PROPOSED AREA REDESIGNATIONS FOR OZONE**

The State standard for ozone is a 1-hour average concentration of 0.09 parts per million (ppm). This concentration is not to be exceeded (CCR, Title 17, section 70200). Under the designation criteria the geographic area for ozone designation is generally the air basin, unless the Board finds that there are areas within an air basin that are distinctly different (refer to Attachment B). The H&SC, section 40925.5 requires the Air Resources Board to redesignate an area at the district level to nonattainment-transitional for ozone by operation of law under certain specified conditions. Based on air quality data for 1994 through 1996, two districts qualify for redesignation by operation of law to nonattainment-transitional for ozone. These districts are Butte County AQMD, and Glenn County APCD. At this time, the staff does not recommend that the Board find Butte County and Glenn County to be distinctly different areas within the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. Because Butte County and Glenn County districts have the same boundaries as Butte and Glenn Counties, and because designations are normally done by air basin or county, the staff recommends the area designation for these two districts be specified by county. Therefore, these districts and their new area designations are listed in Table 60205 by county (refer to Attachment C).

### **1. Butte County (Nonattainment to Nonattainment-Transitional)**

Butte County is located in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. Currently, Butte County is designated as nonattainment for the State ozone standard.

During 1994 through 1996, the staff conducted monitoring at the Chico Manzanita site, the only site in the Butte County AQMD. During this period there were a total of six exceedances. During 1996 there were two exceedances; therefore, Butte County AQMD (by operation of law) qualifies for a change in designation to nonattainment-transitional. The data used for this designation are data for record, and meet the criteria for representativeness and completeness. Section 40925.5(a) of the H&SC provides that a district that is nonattainment for ozone shall be redesignated as nonattainment-transitional by operation of law if there are three or fewer exceedances of the State ozone standard at every monitoring site in the district during the last calendar year. A determination by the Air Resources Board is not required to effect change in designation that is carried out by operation of law.

Based on the 1996 ozone data collected at the Chico-Manzanita site, the staff recommends the Board redesignate Butte County as nonattainment-transitional for ozone. This proposed redesignation is based on H&SC section 40925.5(a) and the guidelines specified in CCR, Title 17, section 70303.5. The redesignation affects CCR, Title 17, section 60201.

## **2. Glenn County (Nonattainment to Nonattainment-Transitional)**

Glenn County is located in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. Currently, Glenn County is designated as nonattainment for the State ozone standard.

During 1994 through 1996, the staff conducted monitoring at the Willows-E Laurel site the high site in the Glenn County APCD. During this period there were a total of five exceedances. During 1996 there was one exceedance; therefore, Glenn County APCD (by operation of law) qualifies for a change in designation to nonattainment-transitional. The data used for this designation are data for record, and meet the criteria for representativeness and completeness. Section 40925.5(a) of the H&SC provides that a district that is nonattainment for ozone shall be redesignated as nonattainment-transitional by operation of law if there are three or fewer exceedances of the State ozone standard at every monitoring site in the district during the last calendar year. A determination by the Air Resources Board is not required to effect change in designation that is carried out by operation of law.

Based on the 1996 ozone data collected at the Willows-E Laurel site, the staff recommends the Board redesignate Glenn County as nonattainment-transitional for ozone. This proposed redesignation is based on H&SC section 40925.5(a) and the guidelines specified in CCR, Title 17, section 70303.5. The redesignation affects CCR, Title 17, section 60201.

## **C. AREAS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR REDESIGNATION**

This section describes nine areas of the State that currently are designated as attainment or unclassified, and for which air quality data collected during 1994 through 1996 show exceedances of a State standard. The staff does not recommend redesignating these areas because the measured exceedances are excluded as highly irregular or infrequent events under the provisions of Appendix 2 to the designation criteria. The nine areas and the affected pollutants are: Inyo County (ozone); Plumas County (ozone); Sonoma County, North Coast Air Basin (ozone); Los Angeles County, South Coast Air Basin (sulfates); Riverside County, South Coast Air Basin (sulfates); Los Angeles County, South Coast Air Basin (lead); Lake County (hydrogen sulfide); Santa Barbara County (hydrogen sulfide);

and San Luis Obispo County (hydrogen sulfide). The specifics of each case are described below.

## **1. Areas Not Recommended for Ozone Redesignation**

The State ozone standard is a 1-hour average concentration of 0.09 ppm, not to be exceeded (CCR, Title 17, section 70200).

### **a. Inyo County**

Inyo County in the Great Basin Valleys Air Basin currently is designated as unclassified for the State ozone standard. During the 1994 through 1996 period, the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District collected ozone data at a site in Bishop. This site has been closed since April 4, 1995. The Bishop data show no exceedances of the State ozone standard. In addition to the Bishop data, the National Park Service has been collecting ozone data since December 1993, at a site in the Death Valley National Park. The ozone data for the Death Valley site show two days during 1994, and one during 1996 with maximum hourly concentrations exceeding the State ozone standard. The maximum concentrations on these days were 0.10 ppm on May 22, 1994, 0.10 ppm on July 15, 1994, and 0.10 ppm on July 15, 1996. Because the data for the Death Valley monitoring site are incomplete, a reliable Expected Peak Day Concentration cannot be calculated for this site. Therefore, the exceedances cannot be excluded as extreme concentration events. However, exceedances measured in areas designated as unclassified may qualify for exclusion as unusual concentration events.

These exceedances may be considered affected by unusual concentration events if the Board's Executive Officer finds that the impact of the exceedances are limited to the local area, the exceedances are not likely to recur, and the data are not sufficient to support a nonattainment designation. Based on a review of air quality and emission data the Executive Officer has found, that the impact of the exceedances is limited to the local area. The data for record suggest that these values are not likely to recur more frequently than extreme concentration events.

Because these exceedances satisfy the conditions specified in Appendix 2 to the designation criteria, they qualify as affected by unusual concentration events and are excluded from this year's area designation process. As a result, the staff does not recommend any change to Inyo County's unclassified designation for the State ozone standard.

#### **b. Plumas County**

Plumas County in the Mountain Counties Air Basin currently is designated as unclassified for the State ozone standard. During 1994 through 1996, there was one exceedance of the State standard at the Quincy-North Church Street site. A maximum hourly ozone concentration of 0.11 ppm occurred on June 12, 1995. Because data for the Quincy-North Church Street site are incomplete and there is no historical data, this area does not meet the completeness criteria (Appendix 3 of the CCR, Title 17). Therefore, a reliable Expected Peak Day Concentration cannot be calculated for this site; the exceedance cannot be excluded as an extreme concentration event.

Exceedances measured in areas designated as unclassified may qualify for exclusion as unusual concentration events. As discussed above, to identify an exceedance as affected by an unusual, concentration event, the exceedance must meet certain criteria. Based on a review of air quality and emission data, the impact of the exceedance appears to be limited to the local area. In addition, the air quality data that are available, although limited, do not indicate that the exceedance is likely to recur. Finally, the available air quality data are not sufficient to support either attainment or nonattainment redesignation. Because the exceedance satisfies the conditions specified in Appendix 2 to the designation criteria, the exceedance qualifies as affected by an unusual concentration event and is excluded from the area designation process. As a result, the staff does not recommend any change to Plumas County's unclassified designation for the State ozone standard.

#### **c. Sonoma County (North Coast Air Basin)**

The portion of Sonoma County located in the North Coast Air Basin currently is designated as attainment for the State ozone standard. Two 1-hour ozone concentrations of 0.10 ppm were measured at the Healdsburg-Municipal Airport site during October 1994, and July 1995. These measurements exceeded the State ozone standard. Based on ozone data collected during 1994 through 1996, the Expected Peak Day Concentration for this site is 0.09 ppm. These data are considered to be data for record. Because the measured exceedances are higher than the Expected Peak Day Concentration, the exceedances qualify as affected by extreme concentration events and are excluded from the designation process.

The remaining ozone data collected during 1994 through 1996 at this site show no exceedances of the State standard. Therefore, the staff does not recommend any change to the ozone attainment designation for the portion of

Sonoma County in the North Coast Air Basin.

## **2. Areas Not Recommended for Sulfates Redesignation**

The State standard for sulfates is a 1-hour average concentration of 25 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m<sup>3</sup>), not to be equaled or exceeded (CCR, Title 17, section 70200).

### **a. Los Angeles County (South Coast Air Basin)**

The portion of Los Angeles County in the South Coast Air Basin currently is designated as attainment for the State sulfates standard. During 1994, three exceedances of the State sulfates standard were measured at three sites. The measured concentrations were 27 ug/m<sup>3</sup> at the West Los Angeles-VA Hospital site, 27 ug/m<sup>3</sup> at the Hawthorne site, and 26 ug/m<sup>3</sup> at the Pico Rivera site. Based on sulfates data collected during 1994 through 1996, the Expected Peak Day Concentrations for these sites are 18 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, 23 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, and 20 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. These data are considered to be data for record. Because all the measured exceedances are higher than the applicable Expected Peak Day Concentration, they qualify as affected by extreme concentration events and are excluded from the area designation process.

The remaining sulfates data collected during 1994 through 1996 at monitoring sites in the South Coast Air Basin portion of Los Angeles County show no exceedances of the State standard. Therefore, the staff does not recommend any change to the sulfates attainment designation for the portion of Los Angeles County in the South Coast Air Basin.

### **b. Riverside County (South Coast Air Basin)**

The portion of Riverside County in the South Coast Air Basin currently is designated as attainment for the State sulfates standard. During April 1995, one exceedance of the State sulfates standard was measured in this portion of Riverside County. The measured concentration was 26 ug/m<sup>3</sup> at the Riverside-Rubidoux site. Based on sulfates data collected during 1994 through 1996, the Expected Peak Day Concentration for this site is 20 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. These data are considered to be data for record. Because the measured exceedance is higher than the applicable Expected Peak Day Concentration, it qualifies as affected by an extreme concentration event and is excluded from the area designation process.

The remaining sulfates data collected during 1994 through 1996 at monitoring sites in the South Coast Air Basin portion of Riverside County show no

exceedances of the State standard. Therefore, the staff does not recommend any change to the sulfates attainment designation for the portion of Riverside County in the South Coast Air Basin.

### **3. Areas Not Recommended for Lead Redesignation**

The State lead standard is a 30-day average concentration of 1.5 micrograms per cubic meter. This concentration is not to be equaled or exceeded (CCR, Title 17, section 70200).

#### **a. Los Angeles County (South Coast Air Basin)**

The portion of Los Angeles County in the South Coast Air Basin currently is designated as attainment for the State lead standard. During 1994 through 1996, there were two exceedances measured at the Commerce-61 Street (LA Paper Box) site. The two 30-day periods and concentrations of the exceedances were:

April 14, 1994 to May 13, 1994 -- 1.6 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

August 6, 1994 to September 4, 1994 -- 1.8 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

To comply with District Rule 1420, HEPA filters were installed on all the baghouses at Quenell Enterprises Inc., Daelco Division, facility 5909 E. Randolph st., Commerce, California, to reduce process emissions. According to the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the high values on April 23, 1994, and May 11, 1994, that contributed to a 30-day average exceedance during the period of April 14, 1994, to May 13, 1994, were caused by leakage of the HEPA filter system (see Attachment E). The installation was completed in October 1992, but the system did not pass source testing until August 1994. The July 1996, data suggests that, once the performance of the filter was certified, no new exceedances of the lead standard occurred. Last year the exceedance during the period of April 14, 1994, to May 13, 1994, was identified as affected by an exceptional event, and not as a violation.

The exceedance which occurred in August 1994, was greatly influenced by a single high 24-hour concentration. This 24-hour concentration of 9.2 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, was measured on August 24, 1994. On this day, a nearby field was plowed for weed abatement which caused soil contaminated by historical emissions to become airborne. Based on lead data collected during 1994 through 1996, the 24-hour Expected Peak Day Concentration for the Commerce-61 Street (LA Paper Box) site is 4.31 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. Since the high 24-hour concentration of 9.2 ug/m<sup>3</sup> is higher than the Expected Peak Day Concentration, it qualifies as an extreme



concentration and is excluded from the designation process. When the high 24-hour concentration is excluded, the 30-day average based on the remaining data is 0.9 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, which does not exceed the lead standard. Additionally, when the high 24-hour concentration is replaced with the EPDC value, the 30-day average is 1.3 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, which does not exceed the State lead standard.

In addition, to the two exceedances at the LA Paper Box site, one 30 day average exceedance occurred at the Trojan Battery-Santa Fe Spring site of:

September 1, 1996 to September 30, 1996 -- 1.8 ug/m<sup>3</sup>

Based on lead data collected during 1994 through 1996 the 24-hour Expected Peak Day Concentration for this site was 3.01 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. Since the highest 24-hour concentration of 5.3 ug/m<sup>3</sup> is higher than the 24-hour Expected Peak Day Concentration, it qualifies as an extreme concentration event and is excluded from the designation process. When the high 24-hour concentrations is excluded, the 30-day average based on the remaining data is 0.93 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, which does not exceed the lead standard. Additionally, when the high 24-hour concentration is replaced with the EPDC value, the 30-day average is 1.35 ug/m<sup>3</sup>, which does not exceed the State lead standard.

The remaining lead monitors in the portion of Los Angeles County in the South Coast Air Basin show no exceedances of the lead standard. Therefore, since one exceedance is affected by an exceptional event, and two exceedances are excluded as extreme concentration events, the staff does not recommend any change to the lead attainment designation for the portion of Los Angeles County in the South Coast Air Basin.

#### **4. Areas Not Recommended for Hydrogen Sulfide Redesignation**

The State standard for hydrogen sulfide is 0.03 ppm. This concentration is not to be equaled or exceeded (CCR, Title 17, section 70200).

##### **a. Lake County**

Lake County in the Lake County Air Basin currently is designated as attainment for the State hydrogen sulfide standard. During September 1995, a 1-hour hydrogen sulfide concentration of 0.05 ppm was measured at the Hobergs-Pine Summit site. In addition, a 1-hour hydrogen sulfide concentration of 0.03 ppm was measured at the Glenbrook-High Valley Road site. These measurements exceed the standard. Based on hydrogen sulfide data collected during 1994 through 1996, the Expected Peak Day Concentration for the Hobergs-Pine Summit and Glenbrook-High Valley Road sites are 0.01 ppm. The data for these sites are

considered data for record and are complete. Because the measured exceedances are higher than the applicable Expected Peak Day Concentration, both qualify as affected by extreme concentration events and are excluded from the area designation process.

The remaining hydrogen sulfide data collected during 1994 through 1996 at the monitoring sites in Lake County show no exceedances of the State standard. Therefore, the staff does not recommend any change to Lake County's attainment designation for the State hydrogen sulfide standard.

#### **b. Santa Barbara County**

Santa Barbara County in the South Central Coast Air Basin currently is designated as attainment for the State hydrogen sulfide standard. During 1995, a 1-hour hydrogen sulfide concentration of 0.04 ppm was measured at the Santa Maria-Battles-Betteravia monitoring site, and two 1-hour hydrogen sulfide concentrations of 0.07 ppm and 0.05 ppm were measured at the Lompoc-HS&P#2 monitoring site. Based on hydrogen sulfide data collected during 1994 through 1996, the Expected Peak Day Concentration for the Santa Maria-Battles site is 0.01 ppm and for the Lompoc-HS&P#2 site is 0.01 ppm. These data are considered to be data for record. Because the measured exceedances are higher than the Expected Peak Day Concentration, these qualify as affected by extreme concentration events and are excluded from the area designation process.

The remaining hydrogen sulfide data collected during 1994 through 1996 at the monitoring sites in Santa Barbara County show no exceedances of the State standard. Therefore, the staff does not recommend any change to Santa Barbara County's attainment designation for the State hydrogen sulfide standard.

#### **c. San Luis Obispo County**

San Luis Obispo County in the South Central Coast Air Basin currently is designated as attainment for the State hydrogen sulfide standard. During March 1994, two 1-hour hydrogen sulfide concentrations of 0.15 ppm and 0.04 ppm were measured at the San Luis Obispo-Lewis monitoring site. Based on hydrogen sulfide data collected during 1994 through 1996, the Expected Peak Day Concentration for this site is 0.03 ppm. The data for this site are considered to be data for record. Because the measured exceedances are higher than the Expected Peak Day Concentration, these qualify as affected by extreme concentration events and are excluded from the area designation process.

The remaining hydrogen sulfide data collected during 1994 through 1996 at San Luis Obispo County show no exceedances of the State standard. Therefore, the staff does not recommend any change to San Luis Obispo County's attainment designation for the State hydrogen sulfide standard.

#### **D. NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES**

This section describes changes to the designation tables to be consistent with CCR, Title 17, section 70302 (a) and section 70303.5. These changes are not changes in designation. The specifics are described below.

##### **1. CCR, Title 17, section 60205**

The change to the table in the CCR, Title 17, section 60205 (refer to Attachment C) is necessary to be consistent with CCR, Title 17, section 70302 (a), where contiguous areas which have the same designation within an air basin shall be one designated area. This change would group El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, and Sierra Counties into one area designated nonattainment for the State PM10 24-hour standard; and Tuolumne and the remainder of Mariposa County (portion outside of Yosemite National Park) into one area.

##### **2. CCR, Title 17, section 60201**

The change to the table in the CCR, Title 17, section 60201 (refer to Attachment C), clarifies, by way of a footnote, that the nonattainment-transitional designation for the State ozone standard for Mono County is done by operation of law. Therefore, this designation is subject to the guideline in the CCR, Title 17, section 70303.5 based on the H&SC, section 40925.5.

### **CHAPTER III**

#### **ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

State law (H&SC section 39608(c)) requires the Board to annually review the area designations for State standards. The proposed amendments to the area designations are described in Chapter II of this Staff Report. The proposed area redesignations reflect the application of the designation criteria set forth in CCR, Title 17, sections 70303.5. Each proposed area redesignation is accompanied by a discussion of its basis and justification. The staff has considered the potential alternatives to the proposed amendments to the area designations--namely, the no action alternative. However, based on the available data, the staff finds the proposed amendments are more appropriate than the no action alternative because the data indicate the areas qualify for redesignation under the regulations. These changes are reflected in Attachment A, which is consistent with H&SC section 40718 requiring the Board to publish maps identifying locations which have measured violations.



## **CHAPTER IV**

### **IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AREA DESIGNATIONS**

#### **A. PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC WELFARE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

The adoption of the proposed amendments to the area designations is not expected in and of itself to result in any adverse impacts on public health, public welfare, and environment. However, because State law specifies certain requirements based on an area's designation status, there may be indirect impacts. The proposed amendments would redesignate two areas as nonattainment-transitional by operation of law for the State ozone standard; the affected areas are Butte County and Glenn County in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. Designating an area as nonattainment-transitional potentially may have some adverse impacts on public health, public welfare, and environment because this designation category allows the district to review and potentially modify some of the control measures identified in its attainment plan. However, prior to modifying control measures, districts designated nonattainment-transitional for ozone must determine that the measures are no longer necessary to accomplish expeditious attainment or to maintain the state standard or that delaying the measures will not retard achievement of the State standard. Also, any such modifications must be consistent with State and federal regulations and statutes. As with a nonattainment designation, any adverse impacts on public health and welfare or the environment that are identified with respect to the modified plan will be included in the development and consideration of such modifications.

Of the areas not recommended for redesignations, two areas, Inyo County and Plumas County in the Mountain Counties Air Basin, for the State ozone standard are affected by exceedances excluded as unusual concentration events. Allowing the exceedances to be excluded as unusual concentration events potentially may have some adverse impact on public health, public welfare, and environment because this allows these areas to maintain their unclassified designation, which would potentially serve to delay the consequences of a nonattainment designation. Therefore, such exclusion of exceedances may delay indirect benefits to the public health, public welfare and environment from potential plans and control measures that would have resulted from a nonattainment designation. These potential effects are limited because an area can be affected by unusual events for a maximum of three years. In addition, the potential effects of each exclusion are evaluated at the time exclusion is being considered. For Inyo and Plumas County, the potential effects of excluding exceedances have been evaluated and determined to be not significant because they are limited to the local area, exceedances are not likely to recur, and the data

are not sufficient to support a nonattainment designation.

## **B. ECONOMIC IMPACTS**

The proposed amendments to the area designations do not contain requirements for action. The area designations are simply labels that describe the healthfulness of the air quality in each area. However, subsequent requirements for action may result after additional steps, such as plan preparation and approval, are taken. Because these regulations by themselves contain no requirements for action, they have no direct economic impact, and the following general determinations are appropriate:

The Executive Officer has determined that adoption of the proposed amendments will not create costs or savings, as defined in Government Code section 11346.5(a)(6), to any State agency or in federal funding to the State, costs or mandate to any local agency or school district whether or not reimbursable by the State pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with section 17500), Division 4, Title 2 of the Government Code, or other nondiscretionary savings to local agencies.

The Executive Officer also has determined, in accordance with Government Code section 11346.5(a)(8), that adoption of the proposed amendments will not have a significant adverse economic impact on businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other States. Finally, the Executive Officer has determined that there will be no, or an insignificant, potential cost impact, as defined in Government Code section 11346.5(a)(9), on private persons or businesses directly affected as a result of adopting the proposed amendments.

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.3, the Executive Officer has determined that adoption of the proposed amendments will not affect the creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California, the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within California, or the expansion of businesses currently doing business within California.

Before taking final action on the proposed amendments to the regulations, the Board must determine that no alternative considered by the agency would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective or less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action (Government Code section 11346.14(b)).

The redesignation to nonattainment-transitional for Butte County and Glenn County, may indirectly result in economic benefits to the districts and local

businesses because this designation category allows the district to review and potentially modify some of the control measures identified in its attainment plan. In addition, Inyo County and Plumas County by being affected by unusual concentration events, both areas are allowed to maintain their unclassified designation. Maintaining these area designations as unclassified would serve to delay the consequences of a nonattainment designation. In this situation, the districts might for a time, avoid costs associated with potentially developing and implementing plans and regulations.





## **CHAPTER V**

### **DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON**

The following is a list of the documents the staff used in developing the proposed amendments documented in this Staff Report:

1. Guideline on the Identification and Use of Air Quality Data Affected by Exceptional Events, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, N.C., # EPA-450/4-86-007 (July 1986).
2. Supplement to the Technical Support Document for Proposed Amendments to the Criteria for Designating Areas of California as Nonattainment, Attainment, or Unclassified for State Ambient Air Quality Standards, Technical Support Division, California Air Resources Board, Sacramento, California (May 1992).
3. State and Local Air Monitoring Network Plan, Technical Support Division, California Air Resources Board, Sacramento, California (August 1996).
4. California Air Pollution Control Laws, California Air Resources Board, Sacramento, (1997 Edition).



**ATTACHMENT A**

**MAPS AND TABLES OF THE AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR STATE AND NATIONAL  
AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS**



## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **MAPS AND TABLES OF THE AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR STATE AND NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS**

#### **A. INTRODUCTION**

This attachment fulfills the requirement of Health and Safety Code, section 40718 for the Air Resources Board (the Board) to publish maps that identify where one or more violations of any State or federal ambient air quality standard have been measured. Federal standards are the National Ambient Air Quality Standards promulgated under section 109 of the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7409).

The attachment is divided into three sections. Section 1 details the levels and specific requirements of both the State and the national ambient air quality standards.

Section 2 contains maps and tables showing the area designations for each pollutant for which there is a State ambient air quality standard (State standard). These maps and summary tables reflect the proposed amendments to the area designations that the Board will consider in November 1997, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 39608. An attainment designation indicates that pollutant concentrations in the area did not violate the State standard for that pollutant, excluding exceedances affected by highly irregular or infrequent events as defined in Appendix 2 to the designation criteria. A nonattainment designation indicates that a pollutant concentration did violate the State standard at least once during the previous three calendar years. Again, exceedances affected by highly irregular or infrequent events are excluded. An unclassified designation indicates that air quality and other relevant information is insufficient to determine whether the area is attainment or nonattainment. In addition to these three major designation categories, there is a subcategory of the nonattainment designation called nonattainment-transitional. This subcategory applies to areas that are close to attainment and meet other conditions as specified in the designation criteria.

Section 3 contains maps and summary tables showing the area designations for each pollutant for which there is a national ambient air quality standard (national standard). These area designations have been promulgated as final by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) based on the requirements in section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act as amended in 1990 (42 U.S.C. 7407(d)).

## **1. State and National Ambient Air Quality Standards**

The Board has adopted and the U.S. EPA has promulgated ambient air quality concentration levels that define good air quality. These levels are the ambient air quality standards and were established to protect human health and/or welfare. The levels of the State and national standards may differ because the Board and the U.S. EPA considered different bodies of information, and the Board chose to provide a wider margin of safety in the State standards than did the U.S. EPA in the national standards.

An ambient air quality standard is a concentration level expressed in either parts per million or micrograms per cubic meter and averaged over a specific time period such as one-hour, eight-hours, 24-hours, or one year. The different averaging times and concentrations are meant to protect against different exposure effects. Some ambient air quality standards are expressed as a concentration that is not to be exceeded. Others are expressed as a concentration that is not to be equaled or exceeded.

The national standards are further categorized as primary standards and secondary standards. The primary national standards are meant to protect public health. The secondary national standards are meant to protect the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects of the pollutant.

The following table contains information for both the State standards and the national standards. Specifically, the table lists the applicable pollutant levels, averaging times, and analytical measurement methods.

## NOTES FOR AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS TABLE

1. State standards for ozone, carbon monoxide (except the Lake Tahoe Air Basin), sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), and visibility reducing particles are values that are not to be exceeded. The State standards for sulfates, Lake Tahoe Air Basin carbon monoxide, lead, hydrogen sulfide, and vinyl chloride are not to be equaled or exceeded.
2. National standards, other than ozone and those based on annual averages or annual arithmetic means, are not to be exceeded more than once a year. The ozone standard is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with maximum hourly average concentrations above the standard is equal to or less than one.
3. Concentration expressed first in units in which it was promulgated. Equivalent units, given in parentheses, are based upon a reference temperature of 25 degrees C and a reference pressure of 760 mm of mercury. All measurements of air quality are to be corrected to a reference temperature of 25 degrees C and a reference pressure of 760 mm of mercury (1013.2 millibar); ppm (parts per million) in this table refers to ppm by volume, or micro moles of pollutant per mole of gas.
4. Any equivalent procedure which can be shown to the satisfaction of the Air Resources Board to give equivalent results at or near the level of the air quality standard may be used.
5. National Primary Standards: The level of air quality necessary, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect public health.
6. National Secondary Standards: The level of air quality necessary to protect the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects of a pollutant.
7. Reference method as described by the U.S. EPA. An "equivalent method" of measurement may be used but must have a "consistent relationship to the reference method" and must be approved by the U.S. EPA.
8. On July 16, 1997 U.S. EPA adopted new national standards for ozone, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The new standards were published in the Federal Register on July 18, 1997. The designations based on the new standards for ozone and PM<sub>10</sub> are expected to occur in September 2000, and for PM<sub>2.5</sub> after September 2002. The schedule for the implementation plan of these new standards is expected to be available on September 16, 1997.
9. This standard is intended to limit the frequency and severity of visibility



impairment due to regional haze and is equivalent to a 10-mile nominal visual range when the relative humidity is less than 70 percent.

10. This standard is equivalent to a 30-mile nominal visual range when the relative humidity is less than 70 percent.

## **2. Area Designations for the State Ambient Air Quality Standards**

This section contains a description of the area designations for each pollutant for which there is a State ambient air quality standard listed in the California Code of Regulations, Title 17, section 70200. The information presented reflects the proposed amendments to the area designations that the Board will consider in November 1997.

The area designations for each pollutant are presented in the form of a map and also, a summary table. Areas are identified as attainment, nonattainment, nonattainment-transitional, or unclassified for each pollutant, as shown, below:

<b>Attainment</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Nonattainment</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>Nonattainment-Transitional</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>U</b>

Generally, the Board designates areas by air basin or county. However, when there are areas of an air basin or county with distinctly different air quality deriving from sources and conditions not affecting the entire air basin or county, the Board may designate a smaller area. Generally, when the boundaries of the designated area differ from the air basin or county boundaries, the description of the specific area is referenced at the bottom of the summary table.



### **3. Area Designations for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards**

This section contains a description of the area designations for each pollutant for which there is a national ambient air quality standard, except lead. The national lead standard was promulgated after the Federal Clean Air Act was amended in 1977, and in promulgating the national lead standard, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) did not require areas to be designated in a manner similar to other pollutants. The area designations for each pollutant are presented in the form of a map and also, a summary table.

The U.S. EPA uses two categories to designate areas with respect to ozone, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen dioxide. These designation categories are:

- o Does not meet primary standards, and
- o Cannot be classified or better than national standards.

Areas that do not meet the primary national standards for these pollutants are indicated on the following maps and summary tables as "N" for nonattainment. Areas that cannot be classified or are better than the national standards are indicated as "UA" for unclassified/attainment.

The U.S. EPA uses four categories to designate areas with respect to sulfur dioxide. These designation categories are:

- o Does not meet the primary standards,
- o Does not meet the secondary standards,
- o Cannot be classified, and
- o Better than the national standards.

In California, the first two designation categories listed above do not apply. The map and summary table for sulfur dioxide show areas that cannot be classified as "U" for unclassifiable and areas that are better than the national standards as "A" for attainment.

Finally, the U.S. EPA uses two categories to designate areas with respect to suspended particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>). These designation categories are:

- o Nonattainment, and
- o Unclassifiable.

The map and summary table for the national PM<sub>10</sub> standards indicate "N" for areas designated as nonattainment and "U" for areas that cannot be classified.

From time to time, the boundaries of the California air basins have been changed to facilitate the planning process. The Board generally initiates these changes, and they are not always reflected in the U.S. EPA area designations. For purposes of consistency with Section 2 of this attachment, all of the maps in the following section reflect the current air basin boundaries as adopted by the Board. Specifically, the maps show the western portion of Placer County as being in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin while the national area designations identify the western portion of Placer County as being in the Mountain Counties Air Basin. Also, while the national area designations reflect the former Southeast Desert Air Basin, the maps in this section show the new Mojave Desert and Salton Sea Air Basin boundaries which were established by the Board in 1997, in accordance with H&SC, section 39606.1. Nevertheless, the summary tables in this section reflect the area designations as promulgated by the U.S. EPA.







**ATTACHMENT B**

**TEXT OF THE DESIGNATION CRITERIA**





## **ATTACHMENT B**

### **TEXT OF THE DESIGNATION CRITERIA CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17, SECTIONS 70300 THROUGH 70306, AND APPENDICES 1 THROUGH 4, THEREOF**

#### **70300. General Statement of Purpose**

The objective of these criteria is to guide the state board in making designations of air basins as attainment, nonattainment, or unclassified for each of the pollutants for which state ambient air quality standards have been established in Section 70200.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

#### **70301. Air Quality Data Used for Designations**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this article, designations shall be based on data for record. "Data for record" are those data collected by or under the auspices of the state board or the districts for the purpose of measuring ambient air quality, and which the executive officer has determined comply with the siting and quality assurance procedures established in Part 58, Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, as they existed on July 1, 1987, or other equivalent procedures. The executive officer shall also determine within 90 days of submittal of complete supporting documentation whether any other data which are provided by a district or by any other person comply with the siting and quality assurance procedures and shall be data for record. If the executive officer finds there is good cause that 90 days is insufficient time to make a determination, he/she may after notification of the person requesting the data review extend the deadline for completion of the data review.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this article, designations and reviews of designations shall be based on data for record for the three calendar years prior to the year in which the designation is made or the annual review of the designation is conducted.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

## **70302. Geographic Extent of Designations**

(a) An air basin shall be the area designated for ozone, nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), sulfates, and visibility reducing particles. Provided, however, if the state board finds (based on air quality data, meteorology, topography, or the distribution of population and emissions) that there are areas within an air basin with distinctly different air quality deriving from sources and conditions not affecting the entire air basin, the state board may designate an area smaller than an air basin using political boundary lines to the extent practicable. In designating an area smaller than an air basin as nonattainment, the state board shall include within the area those sources whose emissions contribute to a violation of a standard for that pollutant. Contiguous areas which would have the same designation within an air basin shall be one designated area.

(b) A county or the portion of a county which is located within an air basin shall be the area designated for carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, lead (particulate), and hydrogen sulfide. Provided, however, if the state board finds (based on air quality data, meteorology, topography, or the distribution of population and emissions) that there are areas within the county with distinctly different air quality, it may designate a smaller area. In designating an area smaller than a county as nonattainment, the state board shall include within the area those sources whose emissions contribute to a violation of a standard for that pollutant.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 38608, Health and Safety Code.

## **70303. Criteria for Designating an Area as Nonattainment**

(a) The state board shall designate an area as nonattainment for a pollutant if:

(1) Data for record show at least one violation of a state standard for that pollutant in the area, and the measurement of the violation meets the representativeness criteria set forth in "Criteria for Determining Data Representativeness" contained in Appendix 1 to this article; or

(2) Limited or no air quality data were collected in the area, but the state board finds, based on meteorology, topography, and air quality data for an adjacent nonattainment area, that there has been at least one violation of a state

standard for that pollutant in the area being designated.

(b) An area shall not be designated as nonattainment if the only recorded exceedance(s) of that standard were based solely on data for record determined to be affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event. Data affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event will be identified as such by the executive officer in accordance with the "Air Resources Board Procedure for Reviewing Air Quality Data Possibly Affected by a Highly Irregular or Infrequent Event," set forth in Appendix 2 to this article.

(c) The state board shall, if requested by a district no later than May 1 of each year pursuant to section 70306, identify that portion of a designated area within the district as nonattainment-transitional for a pollutant other than ozone with a standard averaging time less than or equal to 24 hours and for which samples are routinely collected every day if it finds that:

(1) Data for record for the previous calendar year are consistent with the criteria established in section 70304(a)(2) and show two or fewer days at each site in the area with violations of a state standard for that pollutant (not including exceedances found to be affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event under the procedure set forth in Appendix 2);

(2) Evaluation of multi-year air quality, meteorological and emission data indicates that ambient air quality either has stabilized or is improving and that every site in the area is expected to reach attainment within three years; and

(3) The geographic extent of the area is consistent with the criteria established in section 70302.

(d) An area designated as nonattainment-transitional for a pollutant is close to attaining the standard(s) for that pollutant. The nonattainment-transitional designation provides an opportunity for a district to review and potentially to modify its attainment plan. Any modification to an attainment plan must be consistent with state and federal regulations and statutes.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, 39608, and 40925.5, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607, 39608, and 40925.5, Health and Safety Code.

#### **70303.5. Requirements for Ozone Nonattainment-Transitional**

In evaluating whether a district meets the requirements of HSC 40925.5, the state board shall use the following guidelines:

(1) Data for record for the previous calendar year must be consistent with the criteria established in section 70304(a)(2) to ensure that no more than three exceedances have occurred;

(2) All data collected during the previous calendar year will be considered in the evaluation, including data possibly affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event under the procedure set forth in Appendix 2;

(3) Each day with concentration(s) that exceed the state ozone standard will be counted as one exceedance day; and

(4) No monitoring location may have more than three exceedance days during the previous calendar year.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 40925.5, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 40925.5, Health and Safety Code.

#### **70304. Criteria for Designating an Area as Attainment**

(a) The state board shall designate an area as attainment for a pollutant if:

(1) Data for record show that no state standard for that pollutant was violated at any site in the area; and

(2) Data for record meet representativeness and completeness criteria for a location at which the pollutant concentrations are expected to be high based on the spatial distribution of emission sources in the area and the relationship of emissions to air quality. Data representativeness criteria are set forth in "Criteria for Determining Data Representativeness" contained in Appendix 1 to this article. Data completeness criteria are set forth in "Criteria for Determining Data Completeness" contained in Appendix 3 to this article.

(b) Where there are limited or no air quality data for an area, the state board shall designate the area as attainment for a pollutant if it finds that no state standard for that pollutant has been violated in that area based on:

(1) Air quality data collected in the area during the most recent period since 1980 which meet the conditions in (a) above;

(2) Emissions of that pollutant or its precursors in the area have not increased since that period to a level at which the standard might be exceeded; and

(3) Air quality data collected in the area since the time period in (1) above do not show a violation of the state standard.

(c) Where an area has limited or no air quality data for nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, sulfates, and lead (particulate), the state board shall designate that area attainment for a pollutant if it finds that no state standard for that pollutant has been violated in that area based on the "Screening Procedure for Determining Attainment Designations for Areas with Incomplete Air Quality Data" set forth in Appendix 4 to this article.

(d) A nonattainment area shall not be redesignated as attainment for a pollutant if:

(1) Data for record for the monitoring site showing the greatest violation of a state standard for that pollutant no longer are available; and

(2) No other site has been identified as equivalent by the executive officer.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

#### **70305. Criteria for Designating an Area as Unclassified**

The state board shall designate an area as unclassified for a pollutant if it finds that, except as otherwise provided in this article, the data do not support a designation of attainment or nonattainment.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

#### **70306. Annual Review of Designations**

(a) The executive officer shall conduct annual reviews of all designations and shall propose revisions to the designations as necessary to the state board. The executive officer shall complete the annual reviews by November 15.

(b) Any request for a change in a designation and any submittal of information for purposes of the executive officer's consideration in the annual review of a designation shall be provided in writing to the executive officer no later than May 1 of each year.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING DATA REPRESENTATIVENESS**

This Appendix describes the criteria to be used in determining data representativeness for the purpose of designating areas as described in Article 3, Subchapter 1.5, Chapter 1, Part III, Title 17 (commencing with section 70300), California Code of Regulations. Representativeness, as used here, is only related to whether or not the amount of data reported is deemed sufficiently complete to characterize reliably air quality during the respective time period. No other kind of representativeness is implied. The criteria for representativeness are summarized in the accompanying table and discussed further, below.

Air quality statistics are usually computed from short term observed values. For example, an annual arithmetic mean is computed from all available hourly samples. If all the short term values for the statistical time period are available, the calculated statistic is representative. However, because all the short term values for a given period often are not available, a minimum number of observations are needed to provide reasonable assurance that the calculated value is a reliable estimate. In general, statistics are considered representative if 75 percent of the possible short term values are included and are distributed throughout the entire statistical time period.

To ensure that seasonal variations are accounted for, representative annual statistics are required to have four representative calendar quarters of data. For example, if an annual mean is based on 24-hour samples, such as that computed for suspended particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) samples, three representative months are required for each calendar quarter. A 24-hour particulate sample is collected once every six days or a total of five samples per 31-day month. Therefore, three or fewer samples (less than or equal to 60 percent data recovery) do not meet the criterion for a reliable estimate of the monthly mean concentration. The lack of representativeness of the monthly mean concentrations precludes a reliable estimate of a representative calendar quarter, which in turn precludes the representativeness of an annual statistic. Each level of criteria--hour, day, month, quarter, and year--must be met in order to make a representative annual statistic.

For observations made at less than 24-hour intervals, for example, hourly samples, representativeness depends on whether all the individual values are to be used or only a single daily value is to be used. In general, for representative statistics computed from all of the individual values, such as the mean of all hours, 75 percent of the values in the respective period are required. For representative statistics computed from daily values, such as the monthly mean of daily maximum hours, data from 75 percent of the days in the month are required and the data within those days must meet the relevant representativeness criteria.

# CRITERIA FOR REPRESENTATIVENESS OF AIR QUALITY MEASUREMENTS AND STATISTICS

Representative Calendar Statistic	Sampling Time Period	Basis of Statistic or Requirement	Number of Representative Periods Required
Year	Any		4 representative calendar quarters
Quarter	24-hour	Based on a daily sample	3 representative months
	< 24-hours	Based on a daily statistic; or	69 or more representative calendar days
	< 24-hours	Based on hourly samples	1,643 or more hours
Month	24-hour	Based on daily sample samples	4 or more 24-hour
	< 24-hours	Based on a daily statistic; or	23 or more representative calendar days
	< 24-hours	Based on all hourly samples; or	548 or more hours
	< 24-hours	Based on all 2-hour samples; or	274 or more 2-hour samples
	< 24-hours	Based on all 3-hour samples samples	183 or more 3-hour
Day	1-hour		6 or more hours in each 1/3 day (hours 0 thru 7, 8 thru 15, 16 thru 23), and missing no more than 2 consecutive hourly samples
	2-hour	Based on all 2-hour samples	9 or more samples
	3-hour	Based on all 3-hour samples	6 or more samples
	24-hour	Based on daily sample	22 but not more than 26 hours of sampling

	<u>N</u>	<u>Number of Samples Needed</u>
Mean of N Hour Period	24	18 or more hourly samples
	8	6 or more hourly samples
	6	5 or more hourly samples
	4	3 hourly sample
	3	3 hourly samples
	2	2 hourly samples
	1	30 minutes or more of sampling



## APPENDIX 2

### AIR RESOURCES BOARD PROCEDURE FOR REVIEWING AIR QUALITY DATA POSSIBLY AFFECTED BY A HIGHLY IRREGULAR OR INFREQUENT EVENT

This Appendix describes the procedures that the Air Resources Board will use for reviewing air quality data possibly affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event with regard to the state ambient air quality standards. All decisions regarding the identification of data as being affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event will be made by the executive officer.

The executive officer will review air quality data for possible identification as affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event if the data are the only exceedances of an air quality standard in the area or if such identification would otherwise affect the designation of the area.

Three types of highly irregular or infrequent events may be identified:

1. Exceptional Event.
2. Extreme Concentration Event.
3. Unusual Concentration Event.

#### Exceptional Events

An exceptional event is an event beyond reasonable regulatory control which causes an exceedance of a state standard. An exceptional event must be linked to a specific cause such as an act of nature or unusual human activity. As guidance to the states for determining exceptional events, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published Guideline on the Identification and Use of Air Quality Data Affected by Exceptional Events, (EPA-450/4-86-007), July 1986 (the EPA Guideline). The EPA Guideline provides overall criteria for determining whether an event is exceptional with regard to the national standards. The executive officer will use the EPA Guideline as a general basis for reviewing ambient data, but will not be bound by the specific definitions in the EPA Guideline for the various types of exceptional events because those definitions are made on a national basis. In addition, since what may be exceptional in one part of the state may be common in another, each possible event will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

The steps for identifying an exceptional event are:

1. A district (or the executive officer) identifies questionable data.

2. If a known exceptional event has occurred, the district gathers relevant data to document the occurrence.
3. If an exceptional event is only suspected, the district investigates available data for the possible event.
4. The district submits to the executive officer a request for identifying the data as affected by an exceptional event and also provides supporting documentation.
5. If the executive officer concurs with the district, he/she will identify the data as affected by an exceptional event.
6. If the district's request for identifying data as affected by an exceptional event cannot be supported, the district will be notified of the reasons. The executive officer will consider any additional data to support the request, but in the absence of any new evidence, will disapprove the request.

### **Extreme Concentration Events**

An extreme concentration event is an event beyond reasonable regulatory control which causes an exceedance of a state standard but which does not qualify as an exceptional event. The causes of an extreme concentration event include but are not limited to unusual meteorology.

The steps for identifying an extreme concentration event are:

1. A district (or the executive officer) identifies questionable data.
2. If the event is not an exceptional event, with an identifiable cause, the executive officer will evaluate the data as affected by an extreme concentration event.
3. In evaluating a possible extreme concentration event, the executive officer shall use the data for the site at which the event is suspected to determine a limit for concentrations expected to recur no more frequently than once in one year. The limit shall be determined using the "exponential tail method" which is incorporated by reference herein and described in Part I section B.1. of the "Supplement to the Technical Support Document for

Proposed Amendments to the Criteria for Designating Areas of California as Nonattainment, Attainment, or Unclassified for State Ambient Air Quality Standards" (May 1992). Using conventional rounding procedures, the limit shall be to be consistent with the level of precision in which the standard is expressed. If the possible extreme concentration exceeds the concentration expected to recur no more frequently than once in one year, the executive officer will consult with the district in identifying the data as affected by an extreme concentration event.

4. When an extreme concentration event is identified, the executive officer shall review other information, including but not limited to meteorological data, to determine whether air quality data for other sites in the area were affected by the extreme concentration event.

### **Unusual Concentration Events**

An unusual concentration event is an event which causes an anomalous exceedance of a state standard and which does not qualify as an exceptional event or an extreme concentration event. An exceedance affected by an unusual concentration event may be identified only for an area designated as attainment or unclassified at the time of the exceedance.

The steps for identifying an unusual concentration event are:

1. A district (or the executive officer) identifies a questionable exceedance(s).
2. If the exceedance(s) has not been identified as having been affected by an exceptional event or an extreme concentration event, and if the area was designated as attainment or unclassified at the time of the exceedance(s), the executive officer will review the exceedance(s) to determine whether it was affected by an unusual concentration event.
3. In evaluating a possible unusual concentration event, the executive officer shall consider all relevant information, including but not limited to the amount and characteristics of air quality data, emission data, meteorological data, potential public health and welfare impacts, and any applicable state, district, and federal rules and regulations.

To identify the exceedance(s) as affected by an unusual concentration event, the executive officer must find, based on the relevant information, that the impact of the exceedance(s) is limited to the local area, the exceedance(s) is not expected to recur, and that the data do not support a nonattainment designation.

4. If the exceedance(s) qualifies as possibly affected by an unusual concentration event, the executive officer will consult with the district in identifying the exceedance(s) as affected by an unusual concentration event.
5. An area may retain its attainment or unclassified designation based on the identification and exclusion of an exceedance(s) affected by an unusual concentration event for no more than three consecutive years. If the executive officer identifies an exceedance(s) affected by an unusual concentration event in the area in the fourth consecutive year, the area shall be redesignated as nonattainment.

NOTE: Authority Cited: sections 39600, 39601, 39607, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

## APPENDIX 3

### CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING DATA COMPLETENESS

This Appendix describes the criteria to be used in determining data completeness for the purpose of designating areas as attainment or nonattainment-transitional as described in Article 3, Subchapter 1.5, Chapter 1, Part III, Title 17 (commencing with section 70300), California Code of Regulations. The purpose of these data completeness criteria is to specify the minimum data deemed necessary to assure that sampling occurred at times when a violation is most likely to occur.

#### Complete Data

Data for a site will be deemed complete if there are representative data (as determined in accordance with the Representativeness Criteria in Appendix 1) during the required hours (see below) of the day during the required months (see below) for the required years (see below).

#### Required Hours

The hours of potentially high concentration must be included. Unless a detailed evaluation determines different hours to be appropriate for a specific site, these hours are:

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Hours (PST)</u>
Ozone	9 am - 5 pm
Carbon Monoxide	3 pm - 9 am (next day)
Nitrogen Dioxide	8 am - 8 pm
Visibility Reducing Particles	10 am - 6 pm
Other Pollutants	Throughout day

#### Required Months

The months of potentially high concentrations must be included. Unless a detailed evaluation determines different months to be appropriate for a specific site, these months are:

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Months</u>
Ozone	July - September
Carbon Monoxide	January, November - December
Nitrogen Dioxide	October - December
Sulfur Dioxide	September - December
Sulfates	January, June - December
Lead (Particulate)	January, November - December

Other Pollutants  
**Required Years**

January - December

The number of years to be included is:

- a) Three; or
- b) Two, if during these years the maximum pollutant concentration (not including data found to be affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event under the procedure set forth in Appendix 2) is less than three-fourths the applicable state ambient air quality standard; or
- c) One, if during this year the maximum pollutant concentration (not including data found to be affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event under the procedure set forth in Appendix 2) is less than one-half the applicable state ambient air quality standard.

## APPENDIX 4

### SCREENING PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING ATTAINMENT DESIGNATIONS FOR AREAS WITH INCOMPLETE AIR QUALITY DATA

This Appendix describes the screening procedure that will serve as the basis for making a pollutant-specific finding under section 70304(c) that the state ambient air quality standard is being attained for areas with no or an incomplete air quality data record. The procedure is applicable only for nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, sulfates, and lead (particulate). For those areas with some air quality data for the prior three years, the screening procedure will be applied for a pollutant only if the maximum concentrations of that pollutant in the area did not exceed 75 percent of the state standard(s).

<u>Pollutant</u>		<u>Screening Parameters</u>	<u>Screening Values</u>
Nitrogen Dioxide	a)	Basin Population	1,000,000 people
	b)	Total Annual NO <sub>x</sub> Emissions in Air Basin	40,000 tons/yr
	c)	Total Annual Point Source NO <sub>x</sub> Emissions in County	2,100 tons/yr
Sulfur Dioxide	a)	Total Annual Point Source SO <sub>x</sub> emissions in County	1,700 tons/yr
	b)	Maximum Annual SO <sub>x</sub> Emissions from Single Facility in County	900 tons/yr
Sulfates	a)	Total Annual SO <sub>x</sub> Emissions in Air Basin	19,000 tons/yr
	b)	Total Annual Point Source SO <sub>x</sub> Emissions in County	1,700 tons/yr
	c)	Maximum Annual SO <sub>x</sub> Emissions from Single Facility in County	900 tons/yr
Lead	a)	County Population	600,000 people
	b)	Maximum Annual Lead Emissions from Single Facility in County	0.5 tons/yr

For an area to which these values are applied, the local values of the applicable screening parameters will be compared to the respective screening values. The area will be presumed to be attainment if none of the applicable screening parameters for a pollutant exceed the associated screening values.

**ATTACHMENT C**

**TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
TO THE AREA DESIGNATIONS**





**ATTACHMENT C**

**TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AREA DESIGNATIONS  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS,  
TITLE 17, SECTION 60201**

(Additions are shown as underline italics and deletions as ~~strikeout~~)

**60201. Table of Area Designations for Ozone**

<u>Area</u>	<u>Designation</u>
North Coast Air Basin	Attainment
San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin	Nonattainment
North Central Coast Air Basin	Nonattainment
South Central Coast Air Basin	Nonattainment
South Coast Air Basin	Nonattainment
San Diego Air Basin	Nonattainment
Northeast Plateau Air Basin	Attainment
<del>Sacramento Valley Air Basin</del>	<del>Nonattainment</del>
<u>Sacramento Valley Air Basin</u>	
<u>Butte County<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Nonattainment-Transitional</u>
<u>Glenn County<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Nonattainment-Transitional</u>
<u>Remainder of Basin</u>	<u>Nonattainment</u>
San Joaquin Valley Air Basin	Nonattainment
Great Basin Valleys Air Basin	
Alpine County	Unclassified
Inyo County	Unclassified
Mono County <sup>2</sup>	Nonattainment-Transitional
Mojave Desert Air Basin	Nonattainment
Salton Sea Air Basin	Nonattainment
Mountain Counties Air Basin	
Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Mariposa, and Tuolumne Counties	Nonattainment
Plumas and Sierra Counties	Unclassified
Lake County Air Basin	Attainment
Lake Tahoe Air Basin	Attainment

<sup>1</sup> Designation by operation of law (1997), under H&SC, section 40925.5.

<sup>2</sup> Designation by operation of law (1996), under H&SC, section 40925.5.

NOTE: Authority cited: sections 39600, 39601, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: sections 39608 and 40925.5(a), Health and Safety Code.

**60205. Table of Area Designations for Suspended Particulate Matter (PM10)**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Designation</b>
North Coast Air Basin	Nonattainment
San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin	Nonattainment
North Central Coast Air Basin	Nonattainment
South Central Coast Air Basin	Nonattainment
South Coast Air Basin	Nonattainment
San Diego Air Basin	Nonattainment
Northeast Plateau Air Basin	
Modoc and Siskiyou Counties	Nonattainment
Lassen County	Unclassified
Sacramento Valley Air Basin	Nonattainment
San Joaquin Valley Air Basin	Nonattainment
Great Basin Valleys Air Basin	Nonattainment
Mojave Desert Air Basin	Nonattainment
Salton Sea Air Basin	Nonattainment
Mountain Counties Air Basin	
<u>El Dorado, Nevada, Placer</u>	
<u>Plumas, and Sierra Counties</u>	<u>Nonattainment</u>
Amador County	Unclassified
Calaveras County	Nonattainment
<del>El Dorado County</del>	<del>Nonattainment</del>
<del>Mariposa County</del>	
Mariposa County Portion of	
Yosemite National Park	Nonattainment
<del>Remainder of County</del>	<del>Unclassified</del>
<u>Remainder of Mariposa and Tuolumne Counties</u>	<u>Unclassified</u>
<del>Nevada County</del>	<del>Nonattainment</del>
<del>Placer County</del>	<del>Nonattainment</del>
<del>Plumas County</del>	<del>Nonattainment</del>
<del>Sierra County</del>	<del>Nonattainment</del>
<del>Tuolumne County</del>	<del>Unclassified</del>
Lake County Air Basin	Attainment
Lake Tahoe Air Basin	Nonattainment

NOTE: Authority cited: sections 39600, 39601, and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: section 39608, Health and Safety Code

**ATTACHMENT D**

**EXPECTED PEAK DAY CONCENTRATIONS  
AND DESIGNATION VALUES**



## **ATTACHMENT D**

### **EXPECTED PEAK DAY CONCENTRATIONS AND DESIGNATION VALUES**

This attachment contains the Expected Peak Day Concentrations for various pollutants. The Expected Peak Day Concentration (EPDC) represents the concentration that statistically is estimated to recur once per year. In the area designation process, measured concentrations that are higher than the calculated EPDC, after the EPDC is rounded to the precision of the relevant State standard, are identified as affected by an extreme concentration event and are not considered violations of the State standards. In this attachment, the term Designation Value (DV) is used to refer to the highest measured concentration remaining at a given site after all measured concentrations affected by extreme concentration events are excluded. However, it is important to note that the Designation Values given in this attachment do not exclude concentrations affected by exceptional events or unusual concentration events. If the highest Designation Value within an area is not a violation of the State standard, and all other criteria are met, then the area can be considered in attainment for that pollutant.

The EPDCs and DVs listed in this attachment are based on air quality data collected during 1994 through 1996. This is the most recent three-year period for which air quality data are available and is the same three-year period used in reviewing the area designations described in the accompanying Staff Report. The EPDCs and DVs are listed for each site in the State with appropriate data. Concentrations are listed for ozone, carbon monoxide (8-hour and 1-hour averages), nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide (1-hour and 24-hour averages), suspended particulate matter or PM<sub>10</sub>, sulfates, lead, and hydrogen sulfide in Tables D-1 through D-10, respectively. No values are listed for visibility reducing particles because data are not available for calculating the EPDCs and DVs for this pollutant.

**The EPDCs and DVs listed here are based on all available data. However, in some cases, the data may not be complete or representative. Therefore, the resulting EPDCs and DVs also may not be representative. Individuals using the information presented in this attachment are encouraged to contact the Air Resources Board's Technical Support Division to determine whether the data of concern indeed are complete and representative.**

Finally, it is important to note that the EPDC is the same indicator that the Air Resources Board endorsed for the air pollution control and air quality management districts to use as an indicator in reporting their progress toward attainment of the State standards, as required by the Health and Safety Code sections 40924(b) and (c). The use of the EPDC is described more fully in the document titled:

"Guidance for Using Air Quality-Related Indicators in Reporting Progress in Attaining the State Ambient Air Quality Standards" (Air Resources Board, September 1993).

**ATTACHMENT E**

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR  
PROPOSED AREA DESIGNATIONS**

